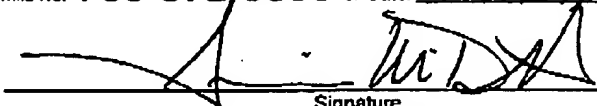


#3-2  
#9/c

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.8	
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark	
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 Signature	
<u>Sean McDermott</u> Typed or Printed Name of Person Signing Certificate	

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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Robert C. Simpson

Serial No.: 09/989,342

Filed: November 20, 2001

For: An Epidural Catheter System To Contain  
And Control An Epidural Catheter,  
Maintain Epidural Catheter Sterility And  
Prevent Epidural Catheter Contamination

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Group Art Unit: 3763

Examiner: Catherine S. WILLIAMS

Att'y Docket: 13421.0002.NPUS00

Confirmation No.: 5345

**REPLY TO NOTICE OF NON-COMPLIANT AMENDMENT  
(37 C.F.R. 1.121) DATED FEBRUARY 11, 2004**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS:**

The following is in reply to the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment dated Feb. 11, 2004, for which the one-month period of reply is Mar. 11, 2004. No extension fee is believed due. However, the undersigned representative requests any extension of time that may be deemed necessary to further the prosecution of this application. In addition, the undersigned representative authorizes the Commissioner to charge any additional fees that may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 01-02508/13421.0002.NPUS00.